



Community Clipnotes

A Quarterly Publication of The Center for Community Solutions Division

Volume III Issue I

Spring/Summer



2005



*A time for planting ideas
that will lead to Growth.*



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New Program to Focus on Improvement

The **Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP)** is a new program that will begin this year. The goal of the program is to provide a coordinated, intensive delivery of city services in selected neighborhoods.

This will be done through a partnership with the neighborhood organization representing the area involved. Private corporate and foundation sponsors will also be encouraged to join the partnership. Approximately 2 or 3 neighborhoods will be selected for the program this year.

Do you feel crime is a problem in your neighborhood? What about the physical condition of houses, streets, and sidewalks? Are they run down? If you answered "yes" to any of the questions listed above, please consider an application to the Neighborhood Improvement Program.

Crime prevention, fire prevention, code enforcement and maintenance of streets and other infrastructure are among the many services to be included in the program.

For more information about the program or to obtain an application for your neighborhood, please contact **Renea Nash** at (816) 513-3214 or renea_nash@kcmo.org

From David Park, Assistant NCSD Director



PARTNERSHIPS

Why Waste A Good Thing?

There are multiple ways for Kansas City, Missouri residents to effectively manage, recycle and dispose of residential waste.

Curbside: Trash – up to two bags collected every week. Additional bags are collected if they have an attached Excess Trash tag. Tags cost a \$1.00 and are available at Westlake Ace Hardware and Price Chopper. **Recycling** – unlimited bi-weekly collection of corrugated cardboard, cereal boxes, junk mail, magazines, catalogs, newspaper, aluminum and all metal cans, plastic bottles with a neck including soda, milk and water bottles. Do you need a recycling bin or have questions about the recycling program? Contact the Action Center at **513-1313**. **Large Item Collection** – Refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers, tables, couches, carpet, etc are collected once a month (every other month in some neighborhoods). No bags. No boxes. **Leaves & Brush** – seasonal collection during the March/April and November/December months. Use paper sacks and bundle twigs and branches.

Drop-Off Sites: Got Glass? The drop-off recycling centers accept glass bottles and additional materials. UMKC Parking lot (4745 Forest), K-Mart (5615 E. Bannister Road) and Metro North Mall are open Wednesdays – Fridays 11 am—5:30 pm and Saturdays

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CLEANING

Neighborhood Leader's 'To Do' List for a Healthy Neighborhood

It can be said that a neighborhood leader's work is never done and it is true that a neighborhood leader will work on a variety of tasks to help improve the neighborhood. Below you will find a list of suggested items to incorporate into your current "to do" list.

- ☐ **Contact** Rita D. Pearce, Jackson County Family Court Victim Specialist at 435-4818 to schedule a presentation to educate neighbors on the juvenile court system, discuss victim rights and available services.
- ☐ **Verify** that our neighborhood group has access to a computer and if not contact the Pan-Educational Institute at 461-0201 to see if we qualify for a computer system that will cost \$250.00 or less.
- ☐ **Contact** Thalia Cherry of the City's Youth Advocacy Office at 513-1378 to get ideas on how to get the youth in our neighborhood engaged in community service projects.
- ☐ **Announce** at a neighborhood meeting that the City has a dispute resolution program that can help neighbors with settling minor disputes at no cost and without legal representation. Contact Human Relations at 513-1836.
- ☐ **Remind** neighbors that they can help improve air quality by mowing their lawns in the early evening or coolest part of the day.
- ☐ **Call** Jamie Hollam at 960-6813 with the ACCENT (A Concerned Community Eliminating Neighborhood Trash) program to schedule the assistance of the program with a clean up planned for our neighborhood.

STRENGTH

Homeowners Beware of Repair Scams

Jefferson City, Mo.—News Release from the MO Atty. Gen. Office, 03/23/2005. Attorney General Jay Nixon Warns Homeowners to Beware of Home Repair Scams. Many homeowners consider springtime to mean the start of home repair and remodeling season. Unfortunately, some unscrupulous contractors see spring as the start of home repair rip-off season. Spring also brings the severe storm season, and damage from wind, rain or hail puts home repair in even higher demand.

Attorney General Jay Nixon is reminding consumers to be careful when they hire contractors to do work on their homes. Nixon's office in 2004 fielded nearly 1,400 consumer complaints relating to home repairs...Nixon suggests homeowners do the following: **(1) Get** all estimates, guarantees and work dates in writing; **(2) Get** a second opinion whenever possible; **(3) Avoid** large payments up front. Make payment only when the work meets the terms of your contract; **(4) Be** suspicious of door-to-door solicitors, especially those offering free inspections. Walk away from offers that are good "now or never."; **(5) Check** ID before letting any worker into your home; and **(6) Check** the credentials of companies: check their references; verify their number and address in the phone book; check for county or other local permits; check for complaints with the Attorney General or the Better Business Bureau; check for business registration with the Missouri Secretary of State.

Nixon says unfortunately con artists often target the elderly, who often own their own homes. Many of these homes are older and do need repairs. There are plenty of good companies out there who can provide those repairs, Nixon says, and Missourians just need to follow these suggestions to find them. Consumers that have questions or problems with a particular business can contact the **Attorney General's Consumer Protection Hotline** by calling **1-800-392-8222** or visiting www.ago.mo.gov.

2006 NUSA Conference in Kansas City

Neighborhoods, USA is coming to Kansas City, MO in May 2006! **The 31st Annual NUSA Conference is coming home on May 24—27, 2006!** Conference Theme is **"Connecting Hearts, Homes and Communities"**. We are excited because the first conference was held in Kansas City, MO in 1976. To make the conference a success and memorable, **volunteers are needed** to serve on various planning committees. Please join us for an NUSA informational session on:

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Discovery Center, 4750 Troost Ave, KCMO

2:00 pm—NUSA Update: "What is NUSA?"

3:00 pm—NUSA Planning Workshop: "How Can I Help?"

For more information about the conference or to get volunteer information, contact **Renea Nash**, NUSA 2006 Conference Coordinator at (816) **513-3214** or renea_nash@kcmo.org.

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from 8 am—4 pm. The site at 4707 Deramus is open from Tuesday through Saturday, 8 am —4 pm. Call **561-1090** for more information. **Got Brush?** The Raytown Rd & I-470 along with 4707 Deramus leaves and brush drop-off sites are open on Saturday's 8 am —6 pm, March 15th—January 15th. No grass clippings. No charge for non-commercial Kansas City residents. **Got Tires?** The Environmental Campus, located at 4707 Deramus, accepts tires the first Saturday of every month, 8 am — 4 pm during the months of March through November. Charges vary, but start at \$1.50 per car tire (without rim). **Got Paint?** The Household Hazardous Waste Facility accepts paint, automotive fluids, household cleaners, pesticides and chemicals free of charge by appointment. Call **784-2080** to schedule an appointment.

Got motor oil? Check out this website: <http://www.marc.org/environment/mousedoil.htm>

Get Organized! Programs offered to pro-active neighborhood groups include minimal cost dumpsters, trash bags for litter control, fee waivers for tire disposal, and organized clean-ups. Contact **Constance Tate**, Outreach & Community Development Specialist, Solid Waste Division, Dept. of Public Works, at **784-2114** to learn more! *From Dee Ann Gregory, Special Projects Coordinator, Solid Waste Division, Dept. of Public Works*

Tips for a Successful Garage Sale

The City of Kansas City, Missouri allows three (3) garage sales a year for a three-day period for each sale without getting a permit. Here are some garage sale tips to consider:

—Market the sale by advertising in the newspaper, etc. When marketing remember that it is unlawful to place signs in or on public property. *City Ordinance, Article I, Sec 4-1—4-3.*

—Schedule an alternate date in case it rains.

—Entice buyers to the sale by placing out a box of 'FREE' items.

—Display clothes on hangers or in neatly folded piles. Creatively display clean items on tables. Group like items together. Have bags on hand for purchases.

—Use a money apron or a strong box to secure the money. Supervise the money at all times. Use 25-cent increment for pricing the items.

—Keep the bill out in the open to ensure proper change when receiving or giving change. Have enough money on hand to make change. Handle one purchase at a time.

—Create an inventory list of each item with the price included. Tag and label each item and cross it off as it is sold.

—Use color-coded price tags for the different price range or to show ownership of the items.

Continued on page 6

Neighborhood Leader's 'To Do' List for a Safe Neighborhood

It can be said that a neighborhood leader's work is never done and it is true that a neighborhood leader will work on a variety of tasks to help improve the neighborhood. Below you will find a list of suggested items to incorporate into your current "to do" list.

- ☐ **Work** with neighbors in the preparation of a phone list of neighborhood older adults so that we can check on them on extremely hot days.
- ☐ **Remind** neighbors that free smoke detectors can be obtained from the KCMO Fire Department by calling 784-9100.
- ☐ **Recommend** at the July meeting that our neighborhood plan a National Night Out activity for August.
- ☐ **Contact** the Center for Community Solutions at 784-4515 to schedule a presentation on personal safety.
- ☐ **Call** Renea Nash at 513-3214 to get more information on the Neighborhoods USA conference.
- ☐ **Verify** that neighbors in the area know how to properly request city services or make a complaint regarding a city service by calling the Action Center at 513-1313.

SHARING

Neighborhood leaders, help us provide accurate contact information about your neighborhood by providing us with **updated information concerning your group** by phone, email, fax, online or a visit. Please inform us of any changes—new officers, meetings (dates, time & location), boundaries, contact person (name, address, & phone) for your group—that has occurred since January 2005.

Opportunities at Your Fingertips

Check out the **City of Kansas City, MO's Youth Advocacy Office** website to see what opportunity awaits you. These opportunities are for students in grades K-12, high school graduates and undergraduates. Some projects have deadlines.

The site has many valuable resources to enhance the personal development of youth through employment, internships, educational scholarships, camps, health services, theatre/arts, leadership, recreational activities, and community services.

For more information regarding the available resources that will allow the youth to grow and become productive citizens, contact:



Thalia Cherry, Manager
Youth Advocacy Office
City Hall, 22nd Floor,
414 E. 12th St,
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: (816) 513-1378



or visit the website at <http://www.kcmo.org/manager.nsf/web/Youthhome?opendocument>.

DEVELOPMENT

Skills for Growth

The **Swope Health Services' Higher Connections Prevention Intervention Program** provides parents and youth with strong defenses against environmental risk factors by teaching appropriate skills for personal growth, family enhancement, and interpersonal communication. It is designed to work with individual, family, and community domains via churches, schools and/or other community organizations.

Primary focus is to (1) educate youth who are seven to seventeen years old and their parents or guardians who may be at high risk for substance use; (2) increase family resilience (or protective factors) thus decreasing the risk for substance use; (3) link families with support services aimed at decreasing substance abuse risk; (4) mobilize communities to prevent substance use through activity that builds awareness and skill and (5) utilize culturally specific and faith-based strategies in a holistic approach.

The Higher Connections program is free to hosting organizations and participants! In conjunction with the hosting site, the program also provide snacks or meals at each session. For more information about this program, contact **Patrick Massey**, Lead Prevention Specialist, Swope Health Services, at (816) 922-7645, ext 6435.

Safety Tips to Share with Youth

Please share these tips with the youth in your community: **Do not** talk to or go anywhere or accept food, drinks, toys or any other items from a stranger. **Tell** a trusted adult or authorities if they find a gun or any other type of weapon or witness a criminal act.

Play in a safe place and stick with friends. **Wear** a helmet when riding a bicycle or scooter or on rollerblades or skateboards.

Know the difference between a good secret—*is a secret that does not hurt them or others* and a bad secret—*is a secret that might hurt them or others*.

Let the youth know that their help is needed in your community and at home by participating in neighborhood cleanups, assisting an elderly neighbor and/or their parents.

Avoid the use of drugs and alcohol, sniffing or huffing inhalants such as glue, paint, lighter fluid, fingernail polish, permanent markers, correction fluids, deodorants or anything in an aerosol can.

Encourage the youth to be safe and strive reach their full potential! For more tips, contact **Center for Community Solutions** at 784-4515.

GUIDANCE

Crime's National Night Out

Are you looking for a way to bring the neighborhood or neighborhoods together? Plan to participate in the **National Night Out (NNO) Against Crime Celebration** on the second Tuesday in August.



NNO is an excellent opportunity for neighbors and communities to strengthen their neighborhoods and partnership with the police and other agencies in supporting anti-crime programs. **NNO** lets criminals know that neighborhoods are organized and standing up against crime.

NNO is celebrated throughout cities and neighborhoods in many ways such as a display of outdoor lights, block parties, parades, and flashlight walks. Over 30 million people throughout the nation and worldwide participated in the **NNO 2004**.

Organize a **NNO** celebration within your neighborhood. Call **Center for Community Solutions** for more information about National Night Out at 784-4515.

**22ND ANNUAL
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (NNO) AGAINST CRIME
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2005**

Free Community Picnic to Launch Drug Awareness Month

Jackson County COMBAT, Community Leaders and Families are launching **Drug Awareness Month** on Sunday, August 7, 2005 at Swope Park. Celebrating the exemplary efforts of Kansas City's prevention and youth development programs in a safe, fun environment with free food (while supplies last) and no alcohol allowed.

COMBAT is a special unit in the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office. The anti-drug sales tax was passed by Jackson County taxpayers to aid in the fight against drugs in the community. **COMBAT** is comprised of nine initiatives: the Prosecutor's Office, Grant Match Program, KCMO Police Department, Deferred Prosecution, Eastern Jackson County Drug Task Force, Corrections, Court, Treatment and Prevention and D.A.R.E. These initiatives offer many services, in conjunction with various agencies throughout the metropolitan area, to help carry out **COMBAT's** mission. In an effort to commemorate drug awareness day, many activities are being planned and developed by **COMBAT's** nine partners, as well as over 100 community agencies funded by **COMBAT**.

Come celebrate sobriety and community efforts to reduce drug use in the community. **All are welcomed** to this community-wide picnic.

Family event with free food and games!

No alcohol allowed!

Live helicopter landing, live band, entertainment and much more!

**Sunday, August 7, 2005
at the Swope Park—Bandstand**

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**For more information,
contact Tammie Jordan at (816) 881-3832.**



KCMO FY 2005-2006 Paint Program

The Paint Program is a City Sponsored program, designed to assist **eligible KCMO residents** in obtaining house paint and painting supplies to paint the homes in which they reside. Listed below are some eligibility guidelines for the program:

- All applicants must be residents of the City of Kansas City, Missouri.
- All applicants must have owned and resided in the property to be painted for at least five (5) years prior to applying for services.
- The total household income (for **everyone** living in the house) may not exceed the 50% median income level as established by HUD. Applicants must provide proof of **ALL** income.
- Applicants may not own more than one property - the property to be painted.
- Applicants may not owe any back-taxes or owe the City any Special Assessments.

Upon approval of the application, a City Staff inspects the

property, the homeowner abates the violations and make all needed repairs that are noted in the inspection. All certificates must be redeemed at selected *Sherwin Williams* paint stores within **seven (7)** calendar days from the issued date on the certificate.

If all painting is not complete within the **twenty-one (21)** calendar day period, the City will collect all paint and supplies that were issued.

To receive an application packet or more information about the program, call **Dangerous Buildings**, a division of Neighborhood and Community Services Department, at (816) **784-4020**, and request a packet **or** download the application from the Neighborhood & Community Services Department website located at:

<http://www.kcmo.org/vacantproperties/paint.pdf>

Fill out the application and mail it to:

**KCMO Paint Program
2534 Prospect
Kansas City, Missouri 64127**



INVOLVEMENT

RESOURCE

Block Party Fun Ideas

In planning a Block Party, the planner has to consider the types of food and beverages to serve, the location, safety, entertainment and the activities. Consider some of these games and activities, but put a fun and safe *twist* on the traditional rules of the game or activity.

CELEBRATING

- ◇ Bicycle Parade, Costume Parade...
- ◇ Checkers, Chess, Bingo, or other board games...
- ◇ Karaoke, Limbo, Obstacle course or some other ways to display skills and talents...
- ◇ Egg relay, Water balloon relay, Cup of water relay...
- ◇ Volley ball, badminton, Frisbees, Water balloon toss, Jump rope competition...
- ◇ Frog Land (similar to musical chairs)—use newspapers, pillows, mats as lily pads...when the music start the participants hops around like a frog, the participants want to be on a lily pad when the music stops.
- ◇ Guess how many jar—fill the jar with beans, macaroni, paper clips...
- ◇ Think of a fun way to recycle during your event. This will help in the clean up. For additional ideas for fun activities for your neighborhood, contact **Center for Community Solutions** at **784-4515**.



Tips for a Successful Garage Sale, *Continued from page 4*

- Keep breakables items at a safe distance from the edges of the tables/shelves.
- Get antique or old furniture appraised before selling to avoid selling a \$100 piece for \$10.
- Beware of ‘pushy buyers’, ‘complaining buyers’ and *shoplifters*. Usually, these persons will use distractions to deter the seller. Beware of the ‘pushy seller’.
- Inspect the items before purchasing. Make sure that you are receiving the items indicated. Keep in mind items at garage sale are not guaranteed or warranted. For more information, contact **Center for Community Solutions** at **784-4515**.

City Holidays: Delay Trash Collection

City holidays will delay trash collection by **one (1) day**.

Please purchase tags for additional trash bags.

SERVICES

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| *July 4, 2005 | Independence Day |
| September 5, 2005 | Labor Day |
| November 24, 2005 | Thanksgiving Day |
| *December 26, 2005 | Observed day for Christmas |

The City has allocated 2 weeks out of the year where trash pick up is unlimited. Trash is unlimited five (5) working days after **July 4th** and five (5) days after **December 25th**—these weeks are referred to as **Amnesty Weeks**.

Fill-In Puzzle :KCMO Neighborhoods

2400 **Myrtle** Block Club (6)

3300-3400 **Virginia** Block Club (8)

49/63 **Coalition** Neighborhood Assn. (9)

52nd Street **Peace Keepers** Block Club (12)

~~Beacon Hill-McFeders—~~
Neighborhood Assn. (18)

Belle Acres Neighborhood Assn. (10)

Brittany Oaks Homes Assn. (12)

Carriage Hill Estates Home Assn. (19)

Chaumiere Neighborhood Assn. (9)

~~Citadel~~ Homes Assn. (7)

Crossgates Homeowners Assn. (10)

Highridge Manor Neighborhood Assn. (14)

Linden Hills Neighborhood Assn. (11)

Little Village Homes Assn. (13)

Loma Vista West Townhouses Homes Assn. (13)

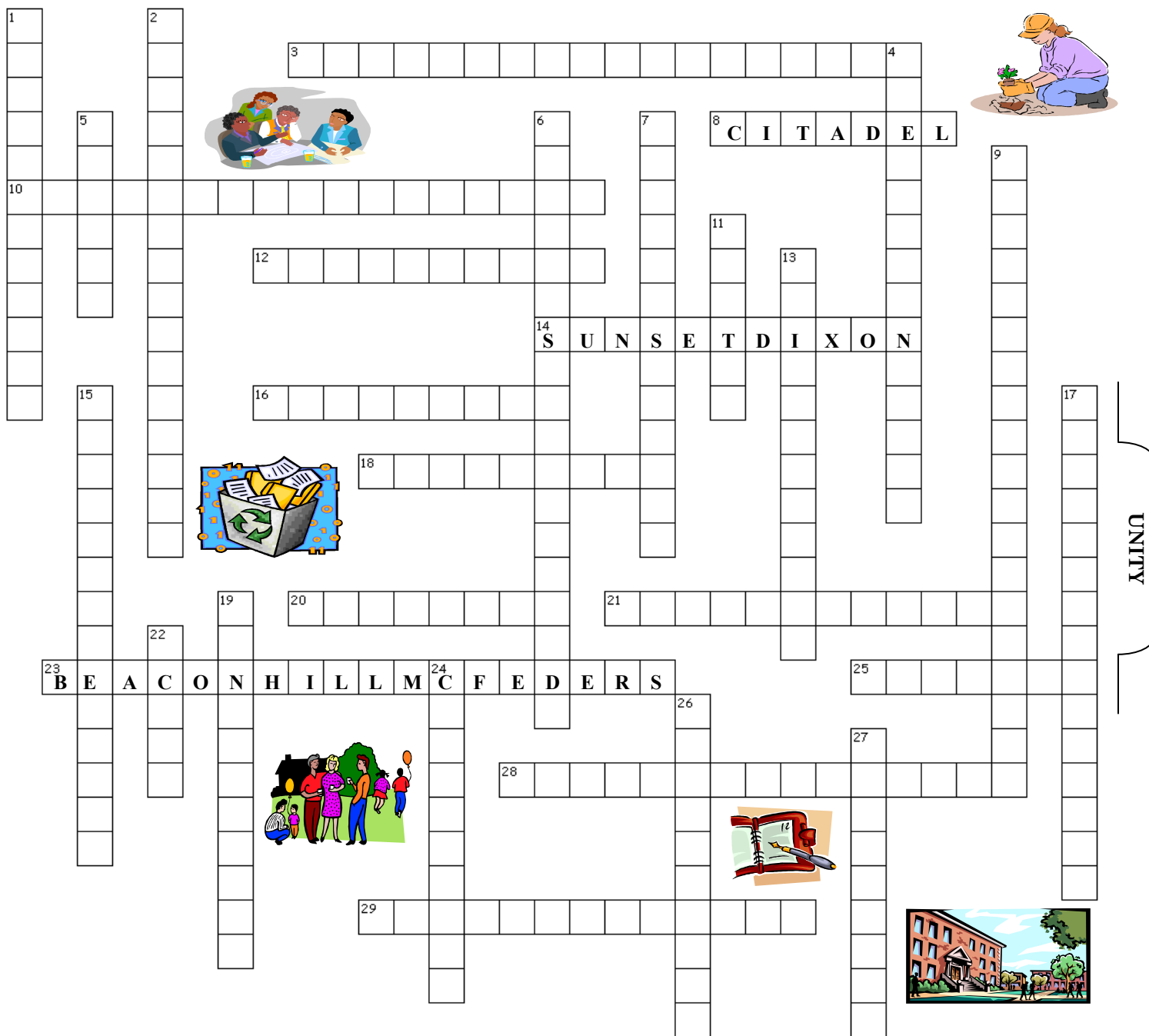
McCoy School Block Watch (5)

Oak Park Neighborhood Assn. (7)

Patterson Highlands Neighborhood Assn. (18)

Ravenwood Summer Neighborhood Assn. (18)

Fill-In Puzzle: KCMO Neighborhoods. Fill in the puzzle diagram, **across and down**, using the **bold-type** part of the neighborhood group names given on pages 6-7. The number in parentheses is the number of letters in the name. For example, *Citadel* is seven-letters long and fits into box #8. **Answer on page 8.** The group names were randomly selected from each Council District. **Enjoy, Puzzle Lovers!**



Renaissance Coves Homes
Assn. (16)

Riss Valley Homes
Assn. (10)

Rolling Hills South Homes

Assn. (17)

Sunnyslope Hills
Neighborhood Assn. (15)

Sunset Dixon Neighborhood
Assn. (11)

Swope Park Campus
Neighborhood Assn. (15)

The Hidden Jewel
Neighborhood Assn. (14)

Timber Valley

Neighborhood Assn. (12)

Walden Homeowners
Assn. (6)

Woodridge Neighborhood
Assn. (9)



**THE CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MO
NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY
SERVICES DEPARTMENT (NCSD)**



Robert J. Mohart FOCUS Multipurpose Center
3200 Wayne, Room 212, Kansas City, MO 64109
Phone: (816) 784-4515 Fax: (816) 784-4529
Email: Solutions_NCSD@kcmo.org

**CENTER FOR COMMUNITY
SOLUTIONS DIVISION (CCS)**

CCS is a division of Neighborhood & Community Services Department.

Nothing Can Stop Dedication

CCS Staff:

Renea Nash, CCS Division Manager, 513-3214

David Reynolds, Safety Coordinator, 784-4530

Daisy Dixon, Community Educator, 784-4516

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**"A community is like a ship;
everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm"**
Henrik Ibsen

Fill-In Puzzle Answers, Puzzle on page 7

ACROSS

3. Ravenwood
Summerset

8. *Citadel* ✓

10. Rolling Hills
South

12. Belle Acres

14. *Sunset Dixon* ✓

16. Coalition

18. Woodridge

20. Virginia

21. Peace Keepers

23. *Beacon Hill-
McFeders* ✓

25. Oak Park

28. Sunnyslope Hills

29. Little Village

DOWN

1. Timber Valley

2. Renaissance Coves

4. The Hidden Jewel

5. Walden

6. Patterson
Highlands

7. Loma Vista West

9. Carriage Hill
Estates

11. Myrtle

13. Brittany Oaks

15. Highridge Manor

17. Swope Park
Campus

19. Linden Hills

22. McCoy

24. Crossgates

26. Riss Valley

27. Chaumiere

Important Meeting Notice

Community Forum to Discuss Trash Collection

Join with Neighborhood Leaders and City Staff members to discuss proposed modifications to the process of how trash is collected at the curb.



Date & Time: July 11, 2005, 1:30 — 3:00 pm

**Location: Robert J. Mohart Multipurpose FOCUS Center,
Auditorium, 3200 Wayne, KCMO 64109**

For more information, contact **Renea Nash**, Division Manager, Center for Community Solutions, at **513-3214**.

Center for Community Solutions' Services

To request additional copies of this newsletter issue, neighborhood group listing, property owner listings, or information about crime prevention topics and presentations, neighborhood maps, or neighborhood watch, or duplicating your neighborhood group newsletter, please contact the **CCS** at (816) **784-4515**, Monday—Friday, 8:00 am —5:00 pm. For more information about CCS' services or about neighborhood contacts, visit the City's website at <http://www.kcmo.org/neigh.nsf/web/ccs?opendocument>.